from the State Government, more than 19,000 human lives have been lost and about 1.67 lakh persons have been injured. The loss of damage to property and infrastructure, as per preliminary estimates, stands at Rs. 21,262 crore.

(c) Relief operations in the affected areas have been undertaken with the assistance of Armed and Para-military Forces, other States, NGOs, other countries and international organisations. The State Government has announced rehabilitation package with the objectives of social cultural and economic settlement with equity, community participation in the rehabilitation and resettlement programme and upgradation of quality of life using the challenge as on opportunity.

(d) An ad-hoc assistance of Rs. 500 crore was released to the State Government on 30.1.2001.

MSP for Copra and natural rubber

112. SHRI NAGENDRA NATH OJHA:
SHRI V.V. RAGHAVAN:

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Minimum Support Prices (MSP) for Copra and natural rubber have been announced;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI SHRIPAD YESSO NAIK): (a) to (c) The Minimum Support Price (MSP) for Copra for the 2001 season is under active consideration of the Government and is expected to be announced shortly.

As regards natural rubber, its prices arc determined by the market forces and is not covered under the MSP. Rubber is a perennial crop with long plant life and generally cultivated with high value crops like pepper, etc.